

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. – 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for producing a minus-strand RNA viral vector, which comprises the steps of:

expressing a bacteriophage RNA polymerase-encoding DNA under the direct control of ~~the~~ a cytomegalovirus enhancer and chicken β -actin promoter-comprising promoter in ~~the~~ a virus-producing cell; and

transcribing with the RNA polymerase, a DNA that encodes the minus-strand RNA virus genome RNA or the complementary strand thereof, and that is operably linked with a recognition sequence of the RNA polymerase in the virus-producing cell; and

expressing minus-strand RNA viral proteins that form a ribonucleoprotein with the genome RNA under the direct control of the cytomegalovirus enhancer and chicken β -actin promoter-comprising promoter in the virus-producing cell.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the RNA polymerase-encoding DNA is expressed episomally in the virus-producing cell.

6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 3, wherein the RNA polymerase-encoding DNA is expressed from a chromosome in the virus-producing cell.

7. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the bacteriophage is selected from the

group consisting of SP6 phage, T3 phage, and T7 phage.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 3, wherein the minus-strand RNA virus is Sendai virus.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 3, wherein the genome RNA or the complementary strand thereof lacks one or more genes encoding an envelope-constituting protein, and wherein the method further comprises the step of expressing a DNA encoding an envelope-constituting protein in the cell.

10. – 25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) ~~The mammalian cell of claim 24~~ A mammalian cell maintaining (i) a bacteriophage RNA polymerase-encoding DNA that is operably linked with a promoter comprising a cytomegalovirus enhancer and a chicken β -actin promoter, which further maintains (ii) a DNA that encodes a minus-strand RNA virus genome RNA or the complementary strand thereof and that is operably linked with a recognition sequence of the RNA polymerase, and (iii) DNAs encoding minus-strand RNA viral proteins that form a ribonucleoprotein with the genome RNA, wherein the DNAs are operably linked to a promoter comprising a cytomegalovirus enhancer and a chicken β -actin promoter.

27. (Original) The mammalian cell of claim 26, wherein the genome RNA or the complementary strand thereof lacks one or more genes encoding an envelope-constituting protein.

28. (Currently amended) The mammalian cell of claim ~~25~~ 26, wherein the minus-strand

RNA virus is Sendai virus.

29. (New) A kit for producing a minus-strand RNA virus, comprising:
- (i) a bacteriophage RNA polymerase-encoding DNA operably linked to a promoter comprising a cytomegalovirus enhancer and a chicken β -actin promoter;
 - (ii) a DNA encoding the minus-strand RNA virus genome RNA or the complementary strand thereof, which is operably linked to the RNA polymerase recognition sequence; and
 - (iii) DNAs encoding minus-strand RNA viral proteins that form a ribonucleoprotein with the genome RNA, wherein the DNA is operably linked to a promoter comprising a cytomegalovirus enhancer and a chicken β -actin promoter.
30. (New) The kit of claim 29, wherein the bacteriophage is selected from the group consisting of SP6 phage, T3 phage, and T7 phage.
31. (New) The kit of claim 29, wherein the genome RNA or the complementary strand thereof lacks one or more genes encoding an envelope-constituting protein.
32. (New) The kit of claim 29, wherein the minus-strand RNA virus is Sendai virus.
33. (New) The kit of claim 29, wherein the bacteriophage RNA polymerase-encoding DNA has a recognition sequence of a recombinase, and the expression of the DNA is inducible by the recombinase.
34. (New) The kit of claim 29, wherein the bacteriophage RNA polymerase-encoding DNA is maintained in a mammalian cell present in the kit.